

**Illustrative questions to direct to departments and others (responses at subsequent meetings):**

General, to all agencies and/or departments listed below:

1. How do your department's activities contribute to achieving the co-equal values of sustaining both Delta ecosystem and water reliability functions, recognizing the California Delta as a unique and valued area warranting special legal status?
2. How do your department's activities contribute too achieving the remaining ten recommendations in the adopted vision?

Agency specific:

*State Water Resources Control Board*

1. How does the State Water Board intend to provide for public trust resources and for ensuring that water is fairly and equitably allocated among users given that existing claimed water rights in combination with current permitted water appropriations far exceed California's average annual surface water supply?
2. What is the level of compliance with existing statutes under which the SWRCB and regional boards operate in the following areas? (a) Obtaining rights for water diversion, (b) complying with conditions of the rights (amount, timing, place of diversion, place of use, and purpose of use), and (c) water quality.
3. To what extent are the State Water Board's authorities and enforcement mechanisms sufficient to result in timely and substantial compliance with reasonable water use provisions?
4. How are relationships among surface water and ground water managed? In your response include consideration of adjudicated and non-adjudicated ground water basins, conjunctive use, water transfers and other factors of importance. What could be done to manage these relationships more effectively? (Question also asked of DWR)

*Department of Water Resources and US Bureau of Reclamation:*

1. Water resources in California are developed (captured, stored, conveyed and treated) by many different entities (local districts, the federal government, the state). What are the advantages and disadvantages of such a system? In particular, how does integration of policy and operations occur?
2. What water uses do you project by region of California for the year 2030? For 2070? For 2100?
3. If charged with achieving 20 percent additional efficiencies in water use in California by 2020, what would the Department do? List the actions proposed with costs and time to achieve effects. How will the efficiencies achieved vary by region and by sector?

4. What provisions (performance metrics) would be available and used to document compliance with achieving a 20 percent additional water efficiency charge?

5. If a major seismic event occurred in the second quarter of 2008 and most levees in the western and central Delta collapsed, what would be the effects on water supply? What is the distribution of those effects, geographically and by sector of the California economy? What responses are expected? Provide any plans that describe the specific actions that would be taken and any information regarding time sequence of actions. How much time and money would be required to return to pre event operations? To 50 percent of the level of reliable water supply?

6. How are relationships among surface water and ground water managed? In your response include consideration of both adjudicated and non-adjudicated ground water basins, conjunctive use, water transfers and other factors of importance. What could be done to manage these relationships more effectively? (joint question with SWRCB)

*Department of Fish and Game, US Fish & Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service:*

1. What institutional and/or policy weaknesses have contributed to listing of Delta species under the Endangered Species Acts, CEQA, NEPA and other environmental laws? How might those weaknesses be addressed?

2. Assessing experience, what is the effectiveness of these approaches in protecting the Delta ecosystem and species of concern? In your analysis, please provide relevant descriptive information about the use of each activity (e.g., Number of uses in Delta watershed? Acres included? Costs? Time periods?)

- Project mitigation
- Environmental water account
- Habitat restoration
- County habitat conservation programs
- Species recovery plans
- Managed wetlands, reserves and preserves
- other policy tools

*Delta Protection Commission:*

1. To what extent are the boundaries of the primary and secondary zone and the powers of DPC appropriate for the recommendations made in the vision adopted in November 2007 by the Task Force?

2. How should or could local land use governance be modified to provide for the land use recommendations provided by the Task Force in the vision adopted in November 2007?

*Public Utilities Commission:*

1. What actions could the PUC take to ensure regulated utility infrastructure is sited to best withstand catastrophic events such as levee failure resulting from flooding or seismic activity in the Delta over the next 50 years?

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or approved by Delta Vision Task Force

2. Does the PUC have the authority to require utilities and agencies with infrastructure in the Delta to prepare emergency response plans to potential levee failure?
3. Does the PUC have the authority to require utilities and agencies with infrastructure in the Delta to expand the criteria by which they evaluate infrastructure repair options after a levee failure? For example, could the PUC require that utilities jointly consider the potential benefits and costs of co-location or elevation of repaired infrastructure?
4. Does the PUC have the authority to require that utilities and agencies with infrastructure in the Delta jointly analyze and compare the costs and benefits of:
  - a. Relocating existing infrastructure that is below sea level to locations above sea level
  - b. Raising existing infrastructure *in situ* to an elevation above sea level
  - c. Co-locating existing infrastructure with other utilities' infrastructure so that the costs and benefits of levee maintenance are shared (co-location may mean sharing an island or sharing a fortified corridor)

*Department of Food and Agriculture* (please enlist USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and UC Cooperative Extension in preparing responses to the first two questions)

1. How could the Department use its resources and expertise to help continue the practice of productive agriculture in the Delta, recognizing the significant changes expected to occur over the next 50 years?
2. In terms of agricultural practices, how could the Department implement the Task Force recommendation to increase the visibility of the Delta as a unique and valued area?
3. What are the implications for regional and California agriculture of the significant loss of Delta agricultural lands either from a catastrophic event or as a result of the implementation of actions to meet other Delta Vision recommendations (e.g., large scale conversion of Delta agricultural landscapes to habitat, flood ways or water storage)?

*California Environmental Protection Agency:*

1. There is inherent conflict in the Delta between providing for good source quality drinking water, and good quality ecosystem water. How could CAL EPA use its extensive authorities and responsibilities to eliminate or substantially reduce this conflict?
2. Does CAL EPA have sufficient authorities to reduce this conflict? If not, what additional authorities are needed?

*Business Housing and Transportation Agency:*

1. What activities (by any government or private interest) of importance to departments in the Business, Transportation and Planning Agency are dependent upon the current configuration of the Delta (levees, waterways, roads etc.)? How do any plans by departments in this agency in-

corporate projected changes in the Delta from seismic events, seal level rise, floods or other events?

2. What plans do departments in the Business, Transportation and Planning Agency have which are dependent on altering the Delta?

*Federal Emergency Management Administration:*

The adopted Delta Vision notes that the periphery of the Delta is under intense pressure for urbanization, with in-fill construction and raw-land development in floodplains. In looking to the future, this periphery will become even more vulnerable due to sea level rise, more frequent flooding, tidal amplification, and wind-fetch damage from seismically induced multiple island failures.

1. In relation to your urban flood mapping and flood insurance-related programs:

- Could we have an update on floodplain mapping and levee certification in the Delta periphery? What is the status of this mapping and levee certification? When do you project completion of work in these areas?
- Could you comment briefly on how FEMA's work is related to current levee inspection work by DWR?
- How does (or will) your mapping address the depth of flooding upon inundation?
- How does your calculation of recurrence interval take projections of sea level rise and climate change into account?
- How does your mapping or levee certification processes take seismic risk into account?
- Are you in a position to compare the US flood risk policies with those of the Netherlands? Could you comment on the wide discrepancy in acceptable risk?

2. In relation to your mission more broadly:

- Are you active in integrated flood protection, flood management, flood plane protection, groundwater recharge, and water conveyance, and ecosystem restoration? Is your legislative mandate broad enough to cover such work?
- What policy support could the BRTF give that could help build a more powerful risk-reduction program?